



NEWSLETTER

Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association

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www.BUMBAbees.com

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Next BUMBA Meeting
Thursday, December 1, 6:30 PM
Watkins Park Nature Center

BUMBA Holiday Party! (and Festival of Lights)

December 1st fast approaches! Only one week between Thanksgiving and BUMBA's annual Holiday Party! It's hard to believe, but one celebration is followed hard on the heels by another.

Celebrate another year in the bee yard with your fellow **BUMBA** beekeepers with a potluck dinner and **gift exchange**. If you are participating in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift (less than \$20 or homemade). If you have some **beekeeping photos** to share, bring a CD or a thumb drive with a folder of photos. Keep it to 5 minutes of material.

We can't have a holiday party without folks volunteering to set up or clean up. Please consider coming a little early or staying a little late to help make the magic happen!

For your potluck dish, please plan to bring appropriate serving utensils (mark your utensils!). **BUMBA** is using **SignUpGenius** online so you can sign up for a food category. Please let us know you are coming and what you plan to bring. The sign-up link is: www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b45afa72c7-holiday

Don't forget the upcoming **BUMBA Beekeeping Short Course**, beginning February 16. Online registration opens soon. Read the article in elsewhere in the Newsletter.

The **Festival of Lights** is on! Tell the rangers you are here for the **BUMBA** Party, but plan to an extra 10-15 minutes to get to the Nature Center!

Questions? Contact **Tracy Velazquez** at tvelazquez@mcn.net.

See you at the party!

The President's Smoker

Happy Holidays Beekeepers!

Maggie Mills

The weather has shifted and your bees should be tucked in for winter. Hopefully you have followed advice and fed light colonies, monitored/treated for Varroa and reduced your colonies as necessary. With rare exceptions, you should not be making any modifications to your colonies until spring. It's not too late to install a shim below the inner cover to be used for emergency fondant feeding during winter or spring.

If you did not treat for Varroa, your only option is to vaporize with Oxalic Acid. Please, please, please follow all warnings, wear a respirator and use caution with this equipment!

BUMBA is gearing up for the **2017 Short Course**. We are making changes to the curriculum and including "The Beekeeper's Handbook" in the short course fee. As before, past students are invited to sit in on any class free of charge (with current **BUMBA** membership) as long as space is available. If you plan to join us again, we'd love to have your help with set up, clean up, or to help welcome our 2017 class. As always, the short course will begin in February and take place every Thursday night for 6 weeks. Please mark your calendars for **April 8th for the Field Day** which we plan to hold at **Scott Seccomb's** apiary. We are always looking for volunteers, so please let us know if you are available to help!

My bees are tucked in for the season, having completed their Mite Away Quick Strips (MAQs) treatment in September. I plan to use the Oxalic Acid vaporization in the coming weeks for added insurance. I have been hearing more and more stories of healthy colonies collapsing in the past month. Some of these colonies received a Fall Varroa treatment, but all signs point to high mite thresholds. The most likely explanation for this is that the bees robbed out a dead or dying colony and the mites came home with robber bees. If your bees die in the coming months, you can save old frames to reuse next season. It's a good idea to freeze the frames for 48 hours to ensure any wax moth eggs are killed. I am entering winter with close to 40 colonies with very diverse queens. I maintained a **Michael Palmer** queen, some VSH stock purchased in 2015, some Harbo and

Mountain States stock purchased from **Dan O'Hanlon** (our August meeting speaker) this year, some Maryland Mutts (my original bees from 2012), Penn State stock I obtained at a grafting workshop in 2013 and a few queens from feral cut outs or swarms collected throughout MD and DC. It's always fun to see how differently they go into winter – some are large clusters who had decent amounts of brood, while others are smaller and had virtually no brood in October. My fingers are crossed we will have an early spring with a big black locust nectar flow to make up for 2016!

As we move into winter months, it's a good idea to review your beekeeping notes and make a list of your 2017 beekeeping goals. Make note of beekeeping equipment you may need to order and consider purchasing new books to increase your beekeeping knowledge. Cold winter days are a great time to read or re-read about seasonal management. If you are a second or third year beekeeper, maybe it's time for you to challenge yourself by learning a new skill – for example: making splits or queen rearing. Now is the time to prepare for spring – it will be here before you know it!

I am looking forward to our Holiday Feast next week and I hope to see all of you there!

Remember to give yourself a little extra time to enjoy the **Festival of Lights** at the Nature Park.

Peace, Love and Bees

Message from the VP

Tracy Velazquez

As you may recall from our last **BUMBA** meeting and newsletter, following an alert regarding an unscheduled spraying for mosquitoes in **Seat Pleasant** last fall I had a phone conversation with a staff member of the **Maryland Department of Agriculture** (MDA). We set a meeting for Friday, November 18th, to discuss ongoing use of pesticides to control mosquitoes, and possible impacts on bees. **Brian Prendergast** and **Jeannine Dorothy** from MDA met for about an hour with **Allen Hayes**, **President of the Maryland Beekeepers Association** and myself. Here are the salient points of that meeting:

1. As Jeannine noted on the phone, the trucks that spray pesticide

generally spray at night, and they use a permethrin-based pesticide. They said this pesticide dissipates fairly quickly. This low-volume, fine spray generally reaches about 300 meters/yards from the road. MDA has mosquito traps set up in the communities where they spray and only sends out the trucks either if they catch a high number of mosquitoes in the traps or in response to a homeowner or town complaint.

2. While towns and individuals can opt out of spraying, MDA WILL SPRAY if there is a “disease event”, overriding any town or individual exemptions. There are two categories of disease events:

a. If someone is diagnosed with a mosquito-borne illness like Zika, even if they contracted it elsewhere. This is on the theory that mosquitoes around their home may have bitten them prior to their having symptoms, and could then bite someone else in that neighborhood.

b. If MDA captures an *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, which is the primary host for Zika, yellow and dengue fever. (For more, see Washington Post article "[As the Aedes aegypti mosquito spreads globally so does the risk of epidemics](#)".) Right now, these ‘skeeters don’t appear to be able to overwinter here in Maryland; those that have been found are presumed to have “hitched a ride” on some vehicle coming from a place where they are endemic.

The important thing about “disease event spraying” is that MDA will “barrier spray” the area in question. This is with an insecticide that lasts for weeks. (I don’t recall what it is.) Jeannine says they try not to spray on flowers/buds of plants. They also said that communities have the option to send out a “reverse 911” to residents to alert them that spraying would happen. I mentioned to Jeannine that in the case of **Seat Pleasant**, the press release and spraying happened over the weekend, when likely no county personnel would have been there to implement this alert. We also discussed the fact that if you don’t have a landline you wouldn’t get the message.

3. While they don’t aerial spray with Naled in Prince George’s County, they do so on the Eastern Shore. Last year they sprayed about 160,000 acres (some of this is multiple spraying of the same acreage). They said they’ve never had a beekeeper contact them about bee die-offs.

4. They also will use larvicides with BT-I to treat bodies of water in Prince George’s County. They indicated they have never had a beekeeper report a bee die-off from using larvicides.

5. Allen brought up the issue of non-lethal harm that pesticide use

might cause; it didn’t appear that MDA has considered this risk in much depth, which could be a result of there not being much research.

6. I asked if there were any counties that entirely opted out of spraying, and they said Montgomery County opted out. They said that Montgomery County had many more cases of mosquito-borne illnesses than Prince George’s County, and said West Nile was the most common one. I just looked this up on the Maryland Department of Health website; over the past ten years that are online, Montgomery County has had a slightly higher rate of West Nile (2.1 per 100,000 population in Montgomery County cumulative over 10 years, compared with 1.5 per 100,000 in Prince George’s), but both rates are not that dissimilar and pretty low.

7. I asked about the regulations of mosquito control pesticides used by businesses and homeowners; they indicated we should meet with **Dennis Howard**, who heads up the MDA pesticide division.

8. We all discussed the need for more public education on this issue. I now have in my possession a box of some excellent taxpayer-funded materials on mosquito control focused on integrated pest management (dumping standing water, etc.) that we can distribute through our outreach activities.

At this point, my plan is to follow up with the **Montgomery County Health Department**, to discuss their “no spray” policy and find out what they have seen as the costs and benefits of this policy, and set up a meeting with **Mr. Howard** to discuss non-governmental pesticide use. Whether this becomes an issue will depend on the spread of Zika and *Aedes aegypti*. I will continue to keep you updated as I learn more.

MSBA Winter Meeting

February 11/18?, 9:30AM – 4:30PM

Location TBD
MD

www.mdbeekeepers.org

Featured Speaker: TBD

MSBA's Winter Meeting will be held in mid-February. The schedule has not been confirmed so please check the MSBA web site, mdbeekeepers.org for updates to the location and speakers.

DC Beekeepers' Alliance

www.dcbeekeepers.org

The DC Beekeepers Alliance monthly meet-ups are scheduled for third Wednesday of each month at the Hill Center (www.hillcenterdc.org) at 921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20003 (Capitol Hill) 6:30 PM to 8 PM. Monthly meetings always include member discussions and speakers on topics of relevance to local beekeepers. For directions and other meeting information, visit www.dcbeekeepers.org



CLUB HAPPENINGS

BUMBA Zoning Letter

Chad Williams
Prince Georges County Zoning Rewrite Project Manager
County Administration Building
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Dear Mr. Williams,

We are writing to voice our concern over the recent change in the definition of agriculture activities to include beekeeping. This change puts most Prince Georges County beekeepers technically out of compliance with the current zoning regulations. We think that this change to include beekeeping in the definition of agriculture activity needs to be removed from the new zoning rewrite. Additionally we think that Prince Georges County is best served by aligning its beekeeping zoning regulation with those of Montgomery County, which have no beekeeping zoning restrictions. As both Prince George's County and Montgomery County are members of the Maryland-National Capitol Park and Planning Commission, alignment of beekeeping policy between the two counties will lead to the best outcomes as the counties improve the quality of life of their residents through solidifying sustainable networks of communities. Pollinators of all types are an essential element of sustainable green spaces.

The proposed land use regulations would continue to prohibit beekeeping in residential zones. This proposed prohibition runs counter to the current practice of reducing restrictions and encouraging beekeeping. Honeybees pollinate over a third of our food crops as well as a myriad of native and ornamental plants. Honeybees in the US have been plagued for over two decades by a series of imported parasites and pathogens. Pollinators of all types have been in decline and the public awareness of their importance has been increasing. Until 2012 it was illegal to keep bees in the District of Columbia. Now they have a vibrant beekeeping community and one of our club members writes a monthly column on urban beekeeping for a national magazine. In 2014, Montgomery County went

through a zoning rewrite, and they currently have no restrictions on beekeeping. Bees can be kept on farms, suburban and townhouse backyards, even city apartment verandas and roofs. Beekeepers generally want to be good neighbors and will work with their neighbors to place hives where they can be enjoyed and not become a nuisance. Indeed, neighbors often thank beekeepers for keeping bees, because their vegetable gardens are more productive. As you can see, honeybees can be good neighbors in residential areas.

The Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association, better known as BUMBA is an active club with over three hundred members. Beekeeping has become more popular over the past eight years with the number of registered beekeepers in the state increasing from 1300 to 1900, and the number of registered beekeepers in the county doubling to about 100. The club plays an active role in Prince George's County through a number of outreach activities. Throughout the year BUMBA regularly participates in over a dozen public events. One of the most popular is the BUMBA booth at the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland Day. Many attendees come to see the observation hive and learn more about the role honeybees play in food production. If beekeeping becomes banned from residential zones in Prince George's County, BUMBA membership will likely drop precipitously and there will be few members to continue the good works that BUMBA participates in for the benefit of the residents of Prince George's County and the State of Maryland.

We and other Prince George's County beekeepers can only speculate as to why the definition of agricultural activities was changed to include beekeeping. Honeybees are not livestock that we own. We may have paid for the queen and worker bees, but honeybees can and do leave the hives we provide for them if they do not like the abode. Some people are afraid of bees since they can sting. However, when a honeybee stings, it is a fatal event for the bee. Because of this, honeybees are loath to sting. If you step on them with your bare feet or poke around in their hive on a hot summer day, they will try to sting, but in their day-to-day business of collecting nectar and pollen, they pay little attention to us humans. Many beekeepers work their hives without gloves and rarely get stung. Wasps, on the other hand, can sting multiple times and often will. For many people, it is easy to mistake a wasp for a bee. If people have complained about honeybees in residential areas, there are many other things that some people are afraid of such as dogs. They are much easier to see and come across than a small

honeybee. Dogs are allowed on residential property, as they should be, and we venture in our speculation that there are many more dog complaints and calls to animal control than there are complaints about bees. If there are significant complaints about honeybees in Prince Georges County, BUMBA would like to know so that we can discuss them at our meetings to ensure that all of our club member are doing their best to be good neighbors. Back in the day when people dried their laundry on clothes lines, they could get stained from honeybee spring time cleansings, but almost no one dries their clothes on an outside clothes line these days. As you may surmise, we see no benefit for Prince Georges County in adding beekeeping to the zoning definition of agricultural activities.

BUMBA strongly encourages Prince George's County to adopt the Montgomery County model and have no restrictions on beekeeping. We want the new zoning regulations to be fair to the beekeepers, fair to the bees and fair to the neighbors. An important part of a green and sustainable Prince George's County is a vibrant pollinator population. Beekeepers, gardeners and farmers can all help to reach that goal. Thank you for your time and feel free to contact us or other members of BUMBA.

Sincerely,

BUMBA rezoning response committee

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Mentoring Survey Now Open

BUMBA is looking to create a more formal mentoring program, and we would like your input. Please fill out the short (7 question) survey at the link below. It will help us decide whether to move forward with a mentoring program, and if we decide to move forward, plan and design a program that will be as successful as possible. If you don't have access to the internet, contact Tracy Velazquez at tvelazquez@mcn.net and we'll send you a paper copy of the survey. Link to BUMBA mentoring survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W365NFX> . Thank you!

MEMBERS' CORNER

This is *your* space for *your* story. Tell us why you started beekeeping, what you enjoy most, or least? What have you learned? What do you want to share?

BUMBA Outreach, 2016

Colleen White

It's the day before Thanksgiving and I wanted to express my gratitude for all of you who have participated in **BUMBA's** outreach events in 2016. We were there at **Behnke's Spring Open House**, then to the **Bowie Green Expo**, onto **Mt. Rainier's Green Fair**, **Maryland Days** at University of Maryland, **Hard Bargain Farms** in Southern Maryland, **Maryland Honey Harvest Festival at Brookside Gardens**, and back to the **Bowie Health Fair**. In between these events some of you gave talks to schools, libraries, social and community clubs.

Thank you for your willingness to educate anyone willing to listen about the importance of not only honey bees but all pollinator. As of now we don't have any events scheduled for the near future. I would, however, like to ask **if anyone is willing to give a short talk to small groups of people to please contact me**. I have a few requests from libraries and clubs for someone to talk about beekeeping, growing plants for bees, and general information regarding pollinators. Also I have been asked numerous of times where people can buy raw honey. Instead of shrugging my shoulders or suggesting farmers markets, would love to be able to tell people what club members sell honey and where. So let me know. One more thing, I would like to give a special shout out to **Gerry Jones**. He has been to almost every event and when weather permits he's brought a few of his girls including a queen. Once again thanks to everyone who's been gracious enough to help out, sometimes on very short notice.

BEES IN THE NEWS

Drugs for honeybee disease will require veterinary prescription in 2017

Story and photos by R. Scott Nolen

Come Jan. 1, 2017, hobbyist and commercial beekeepers alike will no longer be able to purchase antimicrobials over the counter, but instead, will need a veterinary feed directive or prescription for the drugs they administer to their honeybees.

The federal mandate requiring veterinary oversight of medically important antimicrobials in food-producing animals, including honeybees, is part of a Food and Drug Administration strategy to reform the way these drugs are legally used in food animals.

For millennia, humans have relied on *Apis mellifera* for food, to create candles and cosmetics, and, most importantly, to pollinate crops, earning them the name "the angels of agriculture." Veterinary medicine in the United States has, however, traditionally paid little attention to honeybees, the only insect listed as a food-producing animal.

Dr. Christopher Cripps is a rarity as one of a handful of U.S. veterinarians knowledgeable about honeybee health and apiculture. Co-owner of honeybee supply business in Greenwich, New York, Dr. Cripps considers the FDA action an opportunity for veterinarians to access a relatively untouched animal industry valued by the Department of Agriculture at just over \$327 million in 2015.

"The FDA has said veterinarians and beekeepers have to get together," he said. "It's new to us, and it's new to beekeepers, who are used to having no one looking over their shoulder."

This past August, Dr. Cripps spoke at AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association) Convention 2016 about honeybee diseases, approved medications in apiculture, and what the new Veterinary Feed Directive means for veterinarians. Additionally, Dr. Cripps is part of a working group formed by the AVMA Food Safety Advisory Committee to help veterinarians understand the legal requirements of writing a VFD or prescription for honeybees.

“As a strong proponent of responsible antibiotic use, the AVMA has been involved in the changing regulations from the very start,” said Dr. Christine Hoang, an assistant director of the AVMA Animal and Public Health Division and staff adviser for the food safety committee.

“We’ve also recognized that minor species, including honeybees, have unique circumstances and needs that must be addressed. It will be a steep learning curve, but we are currently developing educational materials for our member veterinarians and are dedicated to collaborative solutions for the beekeeping industry,” Dr. Hoang said.

The National Honey Board puts the number of U.S. beekeepers at around 125,000, most of them hobbyists with fewer than 25 hives. Last year, domestic honey production totaled 157 million pounds, according to the USDA, which says managed honeybee colonies contribute roughly \$15 billion to the value of U.S. agriculture each year through increased yields and superior harvests.

Some 18 diseases attributable to bacteria, viruses, and parasites have been identified in honeybees. Arguably the greatest disease threat is the *Varroa destructor* mite, which drains the blood of adult bees and is a vector for various viruses that easily kill off weakened insects. *Varroa* mites are suspected to play an important role in colony collapse disorder, a mysterious occurrence in which most of the worker bees abandon a colony, leaving few nurse bees to care for the remaining immature bees and queen.

American foulbrood disease is the most serious of the honeybee bacterial pathologies. The disease is caused by the spore-forming *Paenibacillus larvae*, which infects one- to two-day-old bee larvae and kills them during the pupal stage. Beekeepers have three FDA-approved antimicrobials to control foulbrood outbreaks—oxytetracycline, tylosin, and lincomycin—which are typically mixed with sugar and dusted over the frames inside a bee hive.

In his presentation at the AVMA convention, Dr. Cripps cited a 2015 survey by the Bee Informed Partnership in which 357 of approximately 5,000 beekeepers admitted using antimicrobials in their bee colonies. Commercial beekeepers, who, on average, own approximately 900 hives, are the primary users of antimicrobials, he added.

Within the beekeeping community, there is little understanding of bacteriology or how antimicrobial resistance is spread, Dr. Cripps observed. “Basically, the beekeepers know that if oxytetracycline doesn’t work, I

should use tylosin,” he explained.

Dr. Cripps described beekeepers as a lot like food animal producers, saying they are frugal yet willing to pay for services that promote the health of their colonies and result in increased honey production. “They’re OK with spending money so long as they’re getting something for the money they spend,” he explained.

Veterinarians can demonstrate their value to beekeepers, Dr. Cripps said, by delivering the same services they provide to owners of avian and mammalian livestock, such as preventive care, disease diagnosis and treatment, parasite control, and education in good husbandry practices. “I think the FDA is not looking for us to exchange our signature for money, which is basically how the beekeepers feel the veterinarians are going to be,” he said. “The FDA wants us to know what’s going on. We have a great education that puts us in a great position to help beekeepers understand the diseases their bees get and how to control and prevent them.”

Treating honeybees with antimicrobials is illegal in Europe, where miticides to control the *Varroa* mite are the only approved medications, according to Dr. Vidal-Naquet, author of “Honeybee Veterinary Medicine: *Apis mellifera* L.,” published in 2015.

“I think that antibiotic resistance is a real problem in the U.S. because of a misuse and overuse of antibiotics,” he said, adding he advocates for good husbandry practices as the ideal way of preventing and controlling honeybee diseases.

www.avma.org/News/JAVMANews/Pages/161015a.aspx

Beekeepers! Gisele Bündchen and Tom Brady

According to People Magazine, super model Gisele Bündchen decided to add honey bee hives to their estate, as a way to add to their healthy diet from their home grown vegetable garden and also raise the environmental consciousness of their two children. Gisele is married to New England Patriots Quarterback Tom Brady.

(see the article at <http://people.com/babies/gisele-bundchen-diy-beekeeping-with-her-kids/>)

BeeInformed.org

Want to Help Bees? – BIP Tech Team Fundraiser

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The success of the Bee Tech Team program has created demands beyond the scope of our existing funds. To scale our impact, we're launching a campaign to raise 50K, a small portion of those funds.

Help our campaign by donating funds and sharing our ask with others.

The **Bee Informed Partnership** is a nonprofit, tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The entire amount of your donation is tax-deductible.

Read more and Donate here: <https://beeinformed.org/2016/11/02/want-to-help-bees-bip-tech-team-fundraiser/>

American Bee Journal "Extra"

Another Species of Varroa Mite Threatens European Honey Bees

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – A sister species of the Varroa destructor mite is developing the ability to parasitize European honeybees, threatening pollinators already hard pressed by pesticides, nutritional deficiencies and disease, a Purdue University study says.

Researchers found that some populations of Varroa jacobsoni mites are shifting from feeding and reproducing on Asian honeybees, their preferred host, to European honeybees, the primary species used for crop pollination and honey production worldwide. To bee researchers, it's a grimly familiar story: V. destructor made the same host leap at least 60 years ago, spreading rapidly to become the most important global health threat to European honeybees.

While host-switching V. jacobsoni mites have not been found outside of Papua New Guinea, Purdue researchers **Gladys Andino** and **Greg Hunt** say vigilance is needed to protect European honey bees worldwide from further risk.

"This could represent a real threat," said Andino, a bioinformatics specialist with Information Technology at Purdue. "If this mite gets out of control and spreads, we might have another situation like V. destructor."

Andino and Hunt said the mites' leap to European honeybees likely occurred within the last decade. Previously, V. jacobsoni mites were

occasionally found on European honeybees but seemed unable to produce healthy offspring, limiting their destructive capacity.

The paper was published in BMC Genomics on Wednesday (Nov. 16) and is available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s12864-016-3130-3>.

Bee Culture "Catch the Buzz"

Some Honey Samples Found with Herbicide Residues

Alan Harman

Residues of the main ingredient in Monsanto's flagship herbicide Roundup have been found in honey in Iowa, sparking an immediate lawsuit.

The environmental website EcoWatch reports the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) began glyphosate residue testing in a small number of foods earlier this year after the International Agency for Research on Cancer classified glyphosate as a probable human carcinogen.

It is the first time the FDA has looked for glyphosate residues in food.

"EPA has examined the glyphosate residue levels found in honey and has determined that glyphosate residues at those levels do not raise a concern for consumers," EPA said in a statement.

There is no legal tolerance level for glyphosate in honey in the U.S. and any amount could technically be considered a violation, according to FDA internal emails.

At least one lawsuit has been filed over the issue.

The Organic Consumers Association and its partner Beyond Pesticides filed suit against the Iowa-based Sioux Honey Association Cooperative that produces the nationally known brand Sue Bee Honey.

The lawsuit alleges that the labeling and advertising of Sue Bee Products as "Pure," "100% Pure," "Natural" and "All-natural" is false, misleading and deceptive when in fact those products test positive for glyphosate, the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup herbicide.

Read more at: <http://www.beeeculture.com/catch-buzz-honey-samples-found-herbicide-residues/>

CLUB PROGRAMS

BUMBA has initiated several programs over the years *and we are always looking for members' assistance*. For more information about a program please contact an officer.

Sentinel Hive Project needs assistance

BUMBA participated in the **Bee Informed Sentinel Hive Project**. This is an ambitious undertaking to intensively study honey bee hives to better identify the reasons for high hive losses across the country. Volunteers are needed to organize BUMBA's future participation as well as to perform the inspections and record keeping. This is an opportunity participate locally in a significant, national scientific study of apicultural science. Contact **Maggie Mills** (contact info on back page) for more information.

BUMBA Extractor for members' use

BUMBA has two honey extractors with a complete set of equipment, for members' use. The first 4 days are free to current members! The extractor manager is **Gerry Jones** in Mitchellville, but we could use another volunteer. BUMBA has established an extractor agreement, rules, and cleaning instructions; copies are available from the manager. To reserve the equipment, contact **Gerry** (gejones486@verizon.net or 301-577-1365), who is available seven days a week, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm, bring a \$50 refundable deposit (cash or check) upon pickup, and sign the use agreement and inventory form. Please be sure to read what you are signing ☺.

www.BUMBAbees.com

Check out the club web site maintained by **Toni Burnham**, www.bumbabees.com. You will find meeting schedules, newsletters, information and membership application forms (payments are still by mail or at a meeting.) *We need content, pictures, ideas, suggestions and help with administration..* If you have any interesting photos to add to the photo gallery, send them with a short description or story to Toni at phang@tonitoni.org.

www.BUMBAbees.com/forums

Check our web forum for questions, answers, opinions and help. Thanks to **Scott Seccomb** and **Toni Burnham**, our private web forum on the BUMBA web page is available for members' use.

Electronic Newsletter

As with all organizations cost cutting is always on the table. One way we reduce our expenses is by eliminating the printed newsletter mailed 6 times a year at a cost of roughly \$1 per newsletter. People who don't have email, of course, continue to receive a printed copy. Help keep club \$\$'s in the bank for club activities.

FREE STATE Bee Supply

Your local bee supply dealer

Crownsville Gardens

1241 Generals Hwy

Crownsville, MD 21401

Phone: 410-923-9800 (store); 443-336-1411 (cell)

Email: dedelmann30@gmail.com

Call or email if you have any questions.

Store hours M-S 9-6PM, Sun 9-5PM

As always, thank you for your continued support!

Delia Edelmann

Notice of your dues will either be on your label or in your email message

Every club needs a little money to keep it going. Although **BUMBA** is solvent, dues are needed to cover meeting room rental, speakers, refreshments and the newsletter. **BUMBA** annual dues are **\$15**. Please remember to bring your dues (**checks preferred**) to the next meeting. Consider paying for two years, as a commitment to beekeeping. Jutta loves to find checks in the mailbox, so you can mail your dues to:

Jutta Dunaway, **BUMBA** Treas., 11814 GALAXY LANE, BOWIE, MD 20715

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Check if you are willing to help out with a club activity or program

Bowie-Upper Marlboro Beekeepers Association Officers

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BUMBA Meets at – Watkins Park Nature Center

BUMBA annual dues are \$15. Our regular meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of the even months at the **Watkins Park Nature Center, 301 Watkins Park Drive in Largo**. From Route 301 or I-495 take Central Ave. (Rte 214) to the intersection with Enterprise Rd. (Rte 193). Turn south onto Watkins Park Dr. and go ½ mile to the park. Follow the road all the way to the back to the Nature Center. We thank the Nature Center Staff for their assistance. For information about the Nature Center, please call **301-218-6702**

Club Calendar

Put these dates on your **2017 BUMBA** Calendar:
 February 2, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
 February 16 & 23, 7:00PM, Short Course
 February 18(?) **MSBA**, Ho. Co. Fair Grounds
 March 2, 9 16 & 23, 7:00PM, Short Course
 April 6, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
 April 8, Saturday Field Day
 June 1, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
 June (?), **MSBA**
 July 31- Aug 4, **EAS**, U. of Del, Newark, DE.
 August 3, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
 October 5, 7:30PM, **BUMBA** Mtg.
 December 7, 6:00PM, **BUMBA** Holiday Party

David Morris, BUMBA Editor
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